

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 to 8 (Canceled).

9. (Currently amended) A filament brake comprising:
a rotatably journaled drum defining a drum axis (X);
said drum having a plurality of peripherally-extending take-up slots formed
thereon for accommodating a plurality of filaments therein;
said take-up slots being spaced one from the other in the direction of said drum
axis (X); and
a drive wheel adapted to cooperate with means for adjusting the torque of said
drum ~~The filament brake of claim 8,~~

wherein each of said slots has an arcuate shape viewed in cross section and includes a filament intake region and a filament run-out region; said drum having a first diameter at said each intake region and a second diameter at said each run-out region; and, said first diameter is greater than said second diameter.

10. (Currently amended) The filament brake of claim ~~[[8]]~~ 9, wherein the drum is journaled at one end.

11. (Currently amended) The filament brake of claim ~~[[8]]~~ 9, wherein the drum is a shaft journaled at both ends.

12. (Previously presented) A filament brake comprising:
a rotatably journaled drum defining a drum axis (X); said drum having a smooth surface;
an ancillary shaft adjacent said drum and arranged inclined to said drum axis (X);
and,
a plurality of filaments being wrapped around the combination of said drum and said ancillary shaft.

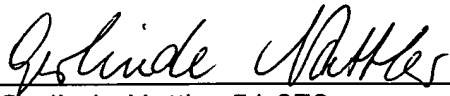
Claims 13 and 14 (Canceled)

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 9-11 are in condition for allowance. Based on the identifiable prior art, claim 12 is allowable, too.

All other points of the office action have been addressed in good faith in order to put the application into the proper shape for allowance.

If the Examiner believes that a conference would be of value in expediting the prosecution of the application, the Examiner is hereby invited to contact the undersigned agent to set up such conference. Respectfully submitted,


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